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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,898	03/30/2001	Shannon E. Lawson	LAWSON 4	8915
27964	7590	06/23/2004	EXAMINER	
HITT GAINES P.C. P.O. BOX 832570 RICHARDSON, TX 75083			WARE, CICELY Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2634	
			DATE MAILED: 06/23/2004	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/821,898

Applicant(s)

LAWSON, SHANNON E.

Examiner

Cicely Ware

Art Unit

2634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, 6, 10, 11 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 7-9 and 12-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- a. Pg. 1, line 21, applicant uses the phrase "sites was channeled back".

Examiner suggests applicant use "sites were channeled back" for clarification purposes.

- b. Pg. 4-5, examiner suggests applicant insert pg. 5 on to pg. 4.
- c. Pg. 8-9, examiner suggests applicant insert pg. 9 on to pg. 8.
- d. Pg. 10-11, examiner suggests applicant insert pg. 11 on to pg. 10.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

4. Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Buckenmaier (US Patent 5,857,005).

(1) With regard to claim 1, Buckenmaier discloses in (Fig. 2 (216, 226)) an event edge synchronization system, comprising: a first clock zone device (212) configured to generate an even signal based upon a first clock rate; a second clock zone device (214) configured to operate at a second clock rate, which is asynchronous with said first clock rate; and a synchronous notification subsystem (228) configured to receive said event signal, synchronize said event signal to said second clock rate based upon an edge transition of said event signal and said second clock rate, and generate a synchronous notification signal therefrom (col. 3, lines 21-27, 48-53, col. 4, lines 21-28, 42-46, col. 5, lines 3-6, 57-67, col. 6, lines 1-2, 12-14).

(2) With regard to claim 5, claim 5 inherits all the limitations of claim 1. Buckenmaier further discloses in (Fig. 2 (228)) wherein said synchronous notification subsystem synchronizes said event signal to said second clock rate based upon a positive edge transition of said event signal (col. 6, lines 12-18).

(3) With regard to claim 6, claim 6 inherits all the limitations of claim 1.

(4) With regard to claim 10, claim 10 inherits all the limitations of claims 6 and 5 above.

(5) With regard to claim 11, claim 11 inherits all the limitations of claim 1.

(6) With regard to claim 15, claim 15 inherits all the limitations of claims 11 and 5 above.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 16-20 are allowed.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The instant application discloses an event edge synchronization system. Prior art references show similar methods but fail to teach a pattern processing engine along with the remaining limitations of the independent claim.

***Double Patenting***

8. Applicant is advised that should claims 1-5 be found allowable, claims 11-15 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

***Conclusion***

9. The prior art made record of and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Truong US Patent 5,537,655 discloses a synchronized fault tolerant reset.


10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cicely Ware whose telephone number is 703-305-8326. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday, 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Chin can be reached on 703-305-4714. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

*Cicely Ware*

cqw  
June 16, 2004



**STEPHEN CHIN**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINEE**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600**